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Emily Lund

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A

good study Bible can prove to be an invaluable companion as you dive into God's Word. But with so many options to choose from, where should you begin? We've compiled a list of seven of our

favorite study Bibles released over the past couple years. We hope they help make your time in Scripture even richer!



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1. [Understand the Faith Study Bible](#) – Zondervan

With a host of international contributors and editors—including *Christianity Today's* very own editor-in-chief, Mark Galli—the *NIV Understand the Faith Study Bible* gives readers answers and insights regarding questions about Christian doctrine, thinkers, and more.

2. [NLT Christian Basics Bible](#) – Tyndale

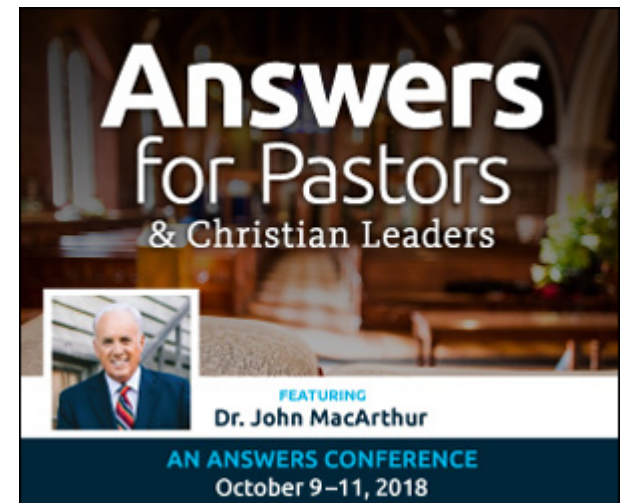
Whether you're a new Christian or simply wanting to go "back to the basics" of Scripture, this Bible is for you. With accessible notes, cross-references, maps, infographics, and more, the *NLT Christian Basics Bible* provides a critical starting returning point—for any believer.

[CSB Apologetics Study Bible](#) – B&H

Learn how to stand up for your beliefs from Lee Strobel, Chuck Colson, and more. The *CSB Apologetics Study Bible* provides material from dozens of Christian thinkers, with study notes, articles, and profiles of Christian historical figures so included.

4. [NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible](#) – Zondervan

We all know our English Bibles are translations of writings from thousands of years ago, for audiences in vastly different cultures and contexts from our own. This study Bible offers a glimpse into how real people lived their lives in ancient



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times, giving a “behind-the-scenes” look at the traditions, historical events, and other influences that shaped the biblical texts.

5. **ESV Systematic Theology Study Bible** – Crossway

Curious about how certain Christian tenets and beliefs are specifically rooted in particular passages of the Bible? The *ESV Systematic Theology Study Bible* examines “how Scripture forms the basis for our understanding of God, humanity, sin, salvation, and eternity,” with hundreds of notes and articles to help you gain an even deeper understanding of Christian doctrines.

6. **NKJV Apply the Word Study Bible** – Thomas Nelson

“Practical”: that’s the best way to describe the *NKJV Apply the Word Study Bible*. Filled with notes and maps to provide historical context, feature articles, and material to help readers see “the relevance of Scripture for everyday life,” this Bible is perfect for anyone seeking to ponder God’s Word while also applying it to their day-to-day life.

Life and Work Bible – Zondervan

Does your faith in God have to do with your job? The answer—whether you’re a pastor, a stay-at-home mom, or a 9-5 office employee—is “everything.” In this study Bible, each book has an introduction that outlines how it applies to both work and faith, and various stories, articles, and essays are included to inspire and encourage you in your everyday work.

Emily Lund is assistant editor for Christian Bible Studies.

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